

SECRET/SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY

VIA CAS BACK CHANNEL

March 31, 1971

WHS 10246

FOR: AMBASSADOR BUNKER

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER /S/

To further clarify his personal view on the Calley conviction, the President has asked that I query you through this channel as to what impact, if any, commutation of the sentence by the President might have in South Vietnam. The President has not repeat not decided on such a course of action but wished to be armed with your best judgment with respect to South Vietnamese attitudes on the Calley case. I will need your answer by the opening of business tomorrow Pacific time.

Best personal regards.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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HAK:AMH:mlh:typed 3/31/71